

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 228880
ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /013 R

DRAFTED BY EA/K STAFF:JCM
APPROVED BY EA/K - MR. RICH
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
EA ONLY

-----065812 100043Z /73

R 090105Z SEP 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS
AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY BY POUCH
XMT AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 228880

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, SHUM, PEPR, PDIP, ENRG, ETRD, BEXP, ECON, SEDU

SUBJECT: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT - KOREA

TO: EA - MR. HOLBROOKE

FROM: EA/K - ROBERT G. RICH, JR.

1. KOREA HEADED FOR MORE HUMAN RIGHTS STRUGGLES
(CONFIDENTIAL)

THE APPARENT DETERMINATION OF LEADING KOREAN DISSIDENTS
TO STEP UP THEIR ATTACKS ON THE ROKG BETWEEN NOW AND
YEAR'S END FOLLOWING THE RETURN OF COLLEGE STUDENTS
TO CAMPUS THIS FALL HAS THE ROK GOVERNMENT WORRIED
AND PLANNING EXTENSIVE COUNTERMEASURES. SO FAR THIS
YEAR, THE GOVERNMENT HAS SHOWN RESTRAINT, IGNORING
STRIDENT MANIFESTOS AND QUICKLY RELEASING ALL BUT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 228880

LEADERS OF DEMONSTRATIONS. MORE FORCEFUL TACTICS--MORE
PROTEST MEETINGS AND OFF-CAMPUS DEMONSTRATIONS--COULD
INDUCE THE ROKG TO REVERT TO EXTENSIVE ARRESTS AND
TRIALS UNDER EM-9 AND PROVIDE AMMUNITION TO U.S. CRITICS
OF THE SLOW PACE OF HUMAN RIGHTS LIBERALIZATION IN KOREA.
(DBM)

2. KIM TAE-CHUNG HUMGER STRIKE (CONFIDENTIAL)

MYONGDONG PRISONER KIM TAE-CHUNG BEGAN ANOTHER HUNGER STRIKE (HIS SECOND THIS YEAR) ON SEPTEMBER 5. A STATE-MENT ISSUED IN HIS NAME CALLS FOR HIS IMMEDIATE REMOVAL FROM HOSPITAL TO PRISON, AND HIS FREEDOM TO READ AND EXCHANGE CORRESPONDENCE. OTHER DISSIDENTS HAVE ISSUED NEW STATEMENTS CALLING FOR RELEASE OF KIM AND ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS, AND KOREAN DISSIDENTS CLAIM THAT KIM SYMPATHIZERS IN JAPAN, WEST GERMANY, AND THE U.S. HAVE JOINED THE HUNGER STRIKE. (DBM)

3. NUCLEAR FUEL SUPPLY IMPASSE EASED (CONFIDENTIAL)

THIS WEEK'S WASHINGTON MEETING OF THE US-ROK JOINT COMMITTEE ON ENERGY TECHNOLOGY REACHED AGREEMENT ON NUCLEAR FUEL SUPPLY ARRANGEMENTS THAT WILL EASE A LONGSTANDING IMPASSE. THE IMPASSE HAS THREATENED FUTURE US COMMERCIAL REACTOR SALES TO KOREA. KOREA HAD SOUGHT AN INCREASE IN ITS ENRICHED FUEL EXPORT CEILING BEFORE A NEW NUCLEAR COOPERATION BILATERAL AGREEMENT IS NEGOTIATED, WHILE THE US MADE SUCH A NEW AGREEMENT A PREREQUISITE FOR A FUEL CEILING INCREASE. WE HAVE NOW AGREED TO A COMPROMISE THAT WILL ALLOW THE ROKG TO CONTRACT FOR ADDITIONAL ENRICHMENT SERVICES, WITH ACTUAL DELIVERY OF FUEL DELAYED UNTIL A NEW AGREEMENT IS IN CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 228880

FORCE. (JLG)

4. ROK CONTACTS WITH USSR (UNCLASSIFIED)

THE SEOUL PRESS IS INTERPRETING AS A MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH IN ROK-USSR RELATIONS THE LATTER'S DECISION TO ALLOW ROK HEALTH AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS MINISTER SIN HYON-HWAK TO ATTEND A WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION MEETING IN MOSCOW SEPTEMBER 5. WHILE SHIN IS THE FIRST ROK CABINET OFFICER TO VISIT THE USSR, WE INTERPRET RUSSIAN WILLINGNESS TO GIVE HIM A VISA AS AN INDICATION OF SOVIET DESIRE TO BE A CORRECT HOST TO THE WHO MEETING RATHER THAN AS A HARBINGER OF DIRECT GOVERNMENTAL CONTACTS BETWEEN THE ROK AND THE USSR. IN ANOTHER FIRST, THE USSR ALSO GAVE VISAS TO TWO SOUTH KOREAN JOURNALISTS TO COVER THE MEETING. (DB)

5. NORTH KOREA: WARMTH FROM PEKING, COLD WIND FROM MOSCOW (CONFIDENTIAL)

THE GUEST LIST FOR THIS WEEKEND'S CELEBRATIONS IN PYONGYANG MARKING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DPRK IS

A USEFUL BAROMETER OF PYONGYANG'S RELATIONS WITH THE

PRC AND THE USSR. DESPITE THE FACT THAT CHAIRMAN HUA WAS IN PYONGYANG AS RECENTLY AS MAY, THE CHINESE DELEGATION WILL BE LED BY VICE PREMIER TENG, WHILE THE SOVIETS WILL BE REPRESENTED BY A MERE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE SUPREME SOVIET, ONE MATCHANOV. (JLG)

6. GEBER CLOSES CONSULTATIONS WITH DISCUSSIONS IN NEW YORK CITY (UNCLASSIFIED)

IN THE LAST PHASE OF HIS ORIENTATION PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR SEOUL, TONY GEBER (ACCOMPANIED BY BLAINE PORTER) MET IN NEW YORK WITH EXECUTIVES OF SEVERAL CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 228880

FIRMS AND BANKS DOING BUSINESS IN KOREA. THE DISCUSSIONS INDICATE AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN REMAIN BULLISH ON KOREA, BUT IT WAS AGREED THAT AMERICAN BUSINESS IN GENERAL IS STILL WOEFULLY UNEDUCATED ON KOREA AND THEREFORE MISSES OUT ON TRADE AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES. TONY ALSO ATTENDED A LUNCH HONORING DICK SNEIDER, SPONSORED BY THE U.S./KOREAN ECONOMIC COUNCIL. AMBASSADOR SNEIDER ADDRESSED THE GROUP, REVIEWING POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN KOREA DURING HIS TENURE, AND EMPHASIZED THAT SECURITY ISSUES REMAIN PARAMOUNT AND OFFERED THE VIEW THAT OUR RELATIONSHIP WILL EVOLVE CLOSER TO A TRUE PARTNERSHIP AS KOREA CONTINUES ITS MOVEMENT INTO THE RANKS OF THE DEVELOPED NATIONS. (BDP)

7. ROK-JAPAN MINISTERIAL A MUTUAL SUCCESS (CONFIDENTIAL)

THE TENTH ROK-JAPAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE LAST WEEKEND (9/3-4), ESSENTIALLY A MUTUALLY PLEASING EXERCISE IN PUBLIC RELATIONS, DID PRODUCE THREE POINTS OF SIGNIFICANCE TO THE ROKG: JAPANESE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF THE KOREAN PENINSULA, A REITERATED PLEDGE BY THE JAPANESE THAT THEIR POLICY TOWARD NORTH KOREA WOULD NOT CHANGE IN THE WAKE OF SIGNING THE PRC-JAPAN PFT, AND SPECIFIC MENTION OF THE CHRONIC TRADE IMBALANCE FAVORING JAPAN. FONMIN PAK TOLD AMBASSADOR GLEYSTEN THAT, ALTHOUGH THE JAPANESE AGREED TO A MEETING LATER THIS YEAR SPECIFICALLY FOCUSSED ON THE TRADE IMBALANCE, THEY HAD COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO NO MORE THAN "TRYING" TO IMPROVE IT. (DBM)

8. STABILIZATION MEASURES WITH FAR REACHING IMPLICATIONS (CONFIDENTIAL)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 05 STATE 228880

IN ITS CONTINUING EFFORTS TO STABILIZE THE ECONOMY THE
ROK HAS TAKEN STEPS WHICH MAY HAVE FAR REACHING
POLITICAL AS WELL AS ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS. IMPORTS
ARE TO BE LIBERALIZED TO ALLOW AN INCREASED VALUE OF

\$1 BILLION ANNUALLY, ON TOP OF THE \$500 MILLION
LIBERALIZATION ANNOUNCED IN THE SPRING. ALSO, IN A
MASSIVE EFFORT TO OVERCOME CRIPPLING BOTTLENECKS IN
SKILLED MANPOWER SUPPLY, ENROLLMENT IN TECHNICAL SCHOOLS
AND UNIVERSITIES IS TO BE INCREASED INCREMENTALLY BY
220,000 BY 1981, BRINGING THE TOTAL IN COLLEGE LEVEL
SCHOOLS TO OVER ONE MILLION STUDENTS AT THE END OF THAT
PERIOD. WE DON'T KNOW YET WHETHER THE TRADE LIBERALIZA-
TION WILL BE IN PRODUCTS WHERE US SUPPLIERS ARE COMPETI-
TIVE, BUT THE EXPANDED SCHOOL ENROLLMENT WILL HAVE
IMPORTANT POLITICAL EFFECTS SINCE BROADENING OF
OPPORTUNITIES TO THIS DEGREE COULD BE ALMOST REVOLU-
TIONARY IN A SOCIAL SENSE. SOME ECONOMIC PLANNERS HOPE
IT COULD LEAD TO INCREASED PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND
REDUCED AUTHORITARIAN RULE. (BDP) CHRISTOPHER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, POLITICAL SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE228880
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JCM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780368-0773
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780984/aaaacrkc.tel
Line Count: 195
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d4767053-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1492591
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT - KOREA TO: EA - MR. HOLBROOKE FROM: EA/K - ROBERT G. RICH, JR.
TAGS: PINS, SHUM, PEPR, PDIP, ENRG, ETRD, BEXP, ECON, SEDU, SOPN
To: EA POSTS PORT MORESBY
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d4767053-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014